



Vol. 2, Issue 9 September 2019

# IMPACT UPDATE

Protecting, Preventing, Providing

Larry Hogan

Governor

Boyd K. Rutherford

Lt. Governor

Colonel William Pallozzi

Superintendent

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Troopers from the MSP North East Barrack were among the many law enforcement officers across the country to celebrate National Night Out on Aug. 6.

## Maryland State Police Helps Celebrate National Night Out Across State

(PIKESVILLE, MD) — Maryland state troopers joined communities and other law enforcement agencies across the state on Tuesday, August 6, 2019, in support of National Night Out.

Every year since 1984 National Night Out is observed on the first Tuesday in August in local communities to promote positive police-community partnerships and neighborhood comradery to make all neighborhoods safer places to live.

In neighborhoods across the state, from westernmost Garrett County to Baltimore, to Southern Maryland, and on the Eastern Shore, residents and law enforcement officers connected with conversations at

cookouts, festivals, and community events.

Among the events Maryland State Police participated in include:

- **Annapolis Barrack** — participated in events in downtown Annapolis and at Fort George G. Meade.
- **Frederick Barrack** — Joined the Walkersville Fire Department and Thurmont Police Department.
- **Rockville Barrack** — Joined with the Rockville City Police Department.
- **Leonardtown Barrack** — Partnered with various community organizations throughout St. Mary's County.



# IMPACT UPDATE

## PHOTOS: National Night Out 2019



MSP Waterloo Barrack



MSP Cumberland Barrack



MSP La Plata Barrack



MSP McHenry Barrack



MSP Frederick Barrack



MSP College Park Barrack



MSP Princess Anne Barrack



MSP North East Barrack

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# IMPACT UPDATE



The Maryland State Police, along with allied agencies in the state and Delaware, gathered to remind motorists of the dangers of impaired driving on their way to vacation, or any other day of the year.

## MSP, MDOT, Allied Agencies Urge Motorists To Avoid Impaired Driving

**(STEVENSVILLE, MD)** – The Maryland State Police, the Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration (MDOT MVA) and law enforcement officials across the Eastern Shore in Maryland and Delaware had a message for those taking a beach trip last month with family and friends: Make the trip memorable for the right reasons, and prevent tragedy by buckling up, avoiding distractions and aggressive driving, and never driving impaired.

In Maryland, between 2014 and 2018, more than 800 people died and 16,000 were injured in crashes involving alcohol or drugs. About one-third of the state's roadway deaths each year involve impaired driving. At the annual Bay to Beach safety event Aug. 6, Maryland State Police joined MDOT MVA and other law

enforcement agencies in urging motorists to always plan a safe and sober ride home.

The Bay to Beach enforcement from the Bay Bridge to Ocean City along the US 50 corridor began August 1 and continued through Labor Day. Maryland State Police and Maryland Transportation Authority (MdTA) Police worked with sheriff's offices in Queen Anne's, Talbot, Caroline, Wicomico and Worcester counties to encourage and enforce safe driving behaviors. Police departments in Easton, Cambridge, Salisbury, Berlin and Ocean City also participated in the high visibility enforcement campaign.

"Ensuring the safety of those traveling to the beach, and across our state, is one of our highest priorities," said Capt. Dan Pickett, executive officer of the Maryland

State Police Field Operations Bureau. "Our message today is clear: If you get behind the wheel drunk or high, you will be arrested."

Bay to Beach checkpoints were conducted in Berlin on Aug. 15 and in Easton on Aug. 16. Saturation patrols and DUI checkpoints were also conducted statewide.

"This joint effort is a great example of our local communities and law enforcement coming together to make sure everyone is getting to and from their destination safely," said Wicomico County Sheriff Mike Lewis.

Learn about the Maryland Highway Safety Office *Toward Zero Deaths* campaign at [towardzerodeathsmd.com](http://towardzerodeathsmd.com),



# IMPACT UPDATE

## MSP, MDOT, AAA To Motorists: 'Don't Drive Intoxicated'

(GLEN BURNIE, MD) — The Maryland State Police, Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration and AAA Mid-Atlantic have teamed up to remind motorists of the risks of distracted driving.

Officials noted that each year on Maryland roads, distracted driving is reported as a factor in nearly 200 fatalities and more than 28,000 injuries.

AAA Mid-Atlantic's traffic safety campaign, "Don't Drive Intoxicated, Don't Drive Intoxicated," encourages people to change texting behaviors behind the wheel.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), sending or reading a text takes your eyes off the road for five seconds. At 55 mph, those five seconds equate to traveling the length of a football field blindfolded.

Distracted driving is especially concerning among younger drivers. NHTSA data since 2007 indicates drivers between ages 16 and 24 use handheld electronic devices while driving at higher rates compared to older drivers.

In addition to using a cellphone while operating a motor vehicle, distracted driving can include anything that takes a driver's attention away from driving,



Maryland State Police Captain Daniel Pickett talks about the dangers of distracted driving.

such as eating, changing radio stations and talking to passengers.

"Our strict enforcement of traffic laws is a daily reminder to drivers that our laws are in place for their safety," said Captain Daniel Pickett, of the Maryland State Police Field Operations Bureau. "Violation of those laws impacts the safety of everyone on our roads."

In Maryland, fines for using a cellphone while driving are \$83 for the first offense, \$140 for a second offense and \$160 for a third offense. Writing, sending or reading a text or electronic message while driving can result in a \$70 fine and one point on the driver's record. These penalties increase if the use of a device contributes to a crash, serious injury or death.

As part of its awareness campaign, MDOT MVA offers these safe driving tips:

- Serve as an example for your family and friends by avoiding distractions while driving.
- Pull over and park in a safe location if you need to send a text message.
- Designate a passenger to respond to any messages while you are behind the wheel.
- Save social media for later. Do not use your phone for social media while driving.
- Put your cellphone in the trunk, glove box or back seat if you are tempted to use it.
- Speak up. If your friends or family use their cellphones while driving, ask them to stop.
- Also, keep police and other emergency responders safe and MOVE OVER if it's safe to do so, or slow down when approaching a stopped emergency vehicle using visual signals.



# IMPACT UPDATE

## Maryland State Police K9s Assist With Two Arrests After Recovery Of Stolen ATV

(NORTH EAST, MD) – Two Maryland State Police K-9s assisted troopers with the arrests of two suspects after the recovery of a stolen ATV on Aug. 12 in Cecil County .

The accused are identified as Acie Tillman Boyce, Jr., 22 and Brittany Jade Russell, 23, both of North East, Maryland. Boyce was charged with motor vehicle theft, disorderly conduct along with several other charges related to the incident. Russell was charged with disorderly conduct.

Shortly after 1 p.m., the owner of a 2015 camouflage Polaris Ranger,



an all-terrain vehicle, came to the North East Barrack to report her ATV vehicle as stolen. She also advised police that her silver trailer was missing.

spray paint all throughout the vehicle. They immediately secured the area and called for K9 assistance.



Around 10:20 p.m. that night, the North East Barrack received 9-1-1 calls reporting the stolen ATV traveling on Route 7, West Old Philadelphia Road between Wells Camp Road and MD 267 in North East. Troopers from the North East Barrack responded to the area and made contact with witnesses who observed the ATV fleeing the area.

Further investigation led the troopers to an area on Louisa Lane where they observed a grass trail from the roadway into a wooded area. Troopers ultimately found the unoccupied ATV approximately 25 yards south of the roadway with

Shortly after, K9 Wade and K9 Max, along with their handlers, responded to the scene and found the two suspects, later identified as Boyce and Russell. The two suspects were found lying down, hiding in a wooded area approximate 100 yards south from where the ATV was found. They were arrested on scene shortly before midnight without incident.

Both Russell and Boyce, Jr., were processed at the North East Barrack. Russell was released on her own recognizance and Boyce, Jr., was transported to the Cecil County Detention Center.

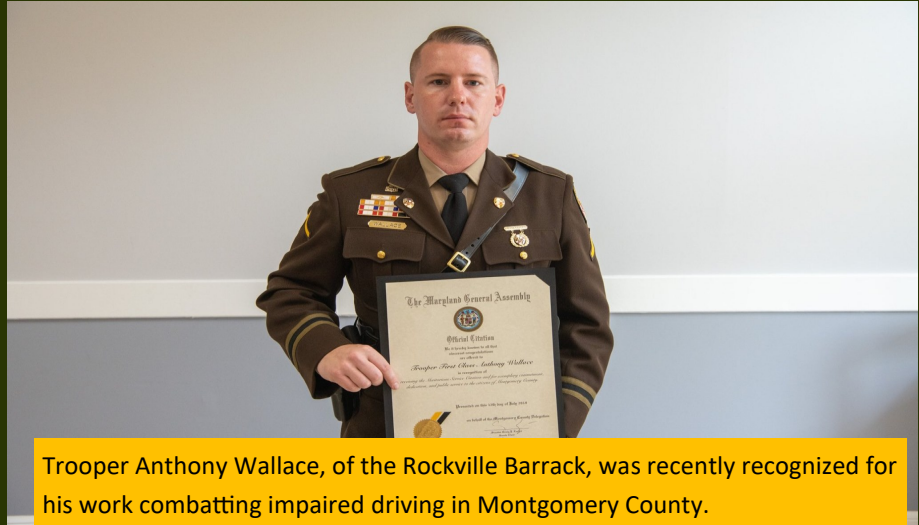


# IMPACT UPDATE

## Safety Tip of the Month

Here are some tips to avoid distracted driving:

- Pull over and park in a safe location if you need to send a text message.
- Designate a passenger to respond to any messages while you are behind the wheel.
- Save social media for later.
- Put your cellphone in the trunk, glove box or back seat if you are tempted to use it.
- If your friends or family use their cellphones while driving, ask them to stop.
- Keep police and other emergency responders safe and MOVE OVER when needed.



Trooper Anthony Wallace, of the Rockville Barrack, was recently recognized for his work combatting impaired driving in Montgomery County.

## Rockville Trooper Recognized For Arresting 150 Impaired Drivers in 2018

(ROCKVILLE, MD) — Maryland State Police Trooper Anthony Wallace was recently honored for making more impaired driving arrests than any trooper in the department in 2018.

The Gaithersburg-Germantown Chamber of Commerce recently presented Trooper Wallace with a Meritorious Service Citation. This came after he arrested 150 people for driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol in Montgomery County and neighboring communities.

“We’ve all been affected by drunk driving in some way shape or form,” First Sgt. Michael Taluskie, the assistant commander of Maryland

State Police Rockville Barrack said, while presenting the award to Wallace, according to Montgomery Community Media.

Taluskie said Wallace’s effort has helped keep area roads safe, reduced the number of vehicle-related injuries and even helped with traffic.

“With all the arrests that he’s made, who knows the untold families that were spared because of TFC Wallace,” said Taluskie, according to Montgomery Community Media.

Wallace has not slowed down in 2019. He is on pace to arrest more than 100 impaired drivers again this year.



# IMPACT UPDATE



## MSP Participates In St. Mary's County's Shop with a Cop Event

Troopers from the Maryland State Police Leonardtown Barrack and the Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division helped a group of students get off to a positive start for the school year.

The troopers joined the St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office on Aug. 10 in participating in the St. Mary's County Back to School Shop With A Cop program. Troopers picked the children up from their homes and took them to a meeting point where children were provided breakfast from Chick-Fil-A. They then traveled to Walmart where they went shopping for school supplies and clothing. Afterwards, the children enjoyed lunch with the troopers at the St. Mary's County FOP Lodge No. 7

Participating in the event from

Maryland State Police were Lt. Rossignol, Sgt. Wiesemann, Cpl. Krenik, Cpl. Barlow and TFC Oyler, along with MT Davis and MT Hewitt from CVED. The St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office organized the event with students from St. Mary's County Public Schools benefitting from the donations.

Others participating in the Shop with a Cop included the St. Mary's County State's Attorney's Office, which collected and organized the funding. The St. Mary's County Optimist Club Compton Chapter organized the breakfast and lunch donations. Also participating in the event were the Office of State Fire Marshal and the Maryland Natural Resources Police.



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# IMPACT UPDATE

## Twelve Years And Counting For MSP Berlin Barrack Commander

(BERLIN, MD) — Here's a little fun fact for you: Berlin Barrack's Lieutenant Earl Starner is the longest tenured lieutenant in the Maryland State Police. He has been a lieutenant for 13 years, which is longer than some lieutenants have even been on the job.

Lt. Starner began his career with the state police as a cadet on Feb. 23, 1988. On March 5, 1990, he entered the academy, graduating August 17th, 1990. This class was the 100th graduating class of the

Maryland State Police. Author Tom Clancy was the special guest speaker at their graduation.

Lt. Starner started as a trooper at the Salisbury Barrack and remained there when he promoted to corporal in 1996. In September 1998, he promoted to sergeant and moved on to the Princess Anne Barrack. He wasted no time promoting to first sergeant in May 2001, transferring to the Berlin Barrack.

Lt. Starner remained at Berlin until January 4, 2006 when he joined the lieutenant ranks and he moved to the Easton Barrack. He quickly realized how much he missed Berlin and placed his transfer to return August, 2007. He has been with the Berlin Barrack since that time and has gained the title of longest tenured lieutenant as the years have passed.



and enjoying time well spent with them.

When Lt. Starner is not in his office, he enjoys fishing, is also an avid runner and enjoys taking part each year in the Law Enforcement Torch Run. During the warmer months of the year you may find him pruning his yard to near perfection. This is only to prepare for his shifting of focus during the holiday months to decorating and go big or go home holiday spirit starting in the fall thru the New Year. Most important is his family

In the 12 years that Lt. Starner has been at the Berlin Barrack, he has managed to watch incredible change take place over Worcester County. He has watched troopers come in and out of the Academy, transfer out and come back years later as sergeants and first sergeants.

Lt. Starner said he has made it clear he has all intentions of holding his title and not retiring anytime soon.



# IMPACT UPDATE

## Gang Enforcement Unit Investigation Leads To Drugs, Weapons Charges/Convictions In Cecil Co.

(PERRYVILLE, MD) — Two suspects were recently sentenced after being convicted on a variety of drugs and weapons charges in Cecil County.

Todd Powell, 34, was convicted of possession with intent to distribute narcotics and possession of a firearm with a felony conviction in Cecil County Circuit Court. He was sentenced to 20 years in prison for the drug conviction and a concurrent 15-year sentence on the firearm charge. Heather Adkins, 34, was sentenced to serve 5 years in prison on her drug possession charge.

In January, members of the Maryland State Police Gang Enforcement Unit were conducting a gang and crime-suppression assignment in Cecil County. During the assignment, they stopped a Toyota Rav4 for several motor vehicle violations. During the traffic stop, they identified the driver as Powell and the passenger as Adkins.

While speaking with Powell and Adkins, investigators noticed several indicators of criminal activity. They requested a K-9 from the Maryland State Police North East, Barrack. After receiving a positive K-9 alert for the presence of narcotics, GEU



Troopers conducted a probable cause search of Powell's vehicle and discovered suspected heroin and fentanyl along with cocaine, methamphetamine and marijuana. Powell and Adkins were arrested and transported to the North East Barrack and were charged accordingly.

Gang Enforcement Unit troopers later served a search and seizure warrant on Powell's residence and discovered weapons and drugs, including heroin and fentanyl.

This investigation was a coordinated effort between the Maryland State Police, Gang Enforcement Unit and North East Barrack under the Maryland Criminal Intelligence Network (MCIN). The case was prosecuted

by the Cecil County State's Attorney's Office.

The Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention (GOCCP) provides grant funding and strategic support to MCIN member sites to identify, disrupt, and dismantle criminal organizations through inter-agency collaboration and data sharing to make Maryland safer.

The Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention funded this project under subaward number, MDSS-2019-0024. All points of view in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position of any Maryland State office or agency.



# IMPACT UPDATE

## MSP Leonardtown Barrack Installs Signs To Highlight Impaired Driving, Opioid Crisis

(LEONARDTOWN, MD) – The Maryland State Police Leonardtown Barrack unveiled a pair of signs to help bring attention to two important community issues: the opioid epidemic and drinking and driving.

Allied law enforcement members, health officials and community members joined the State Police Aug. 15 for an unveiling ceremony outside the Leonardtown Barrack for the two newly installed community awareness signs.

One side of the sign will track St. Mary's County fatal, and alcohol-related crashes and DUI arrests. The other side of the sign will track St. Mary's County's heroin/opioid overdose awareness, which will include the number of overdoses handled by law enforcement, lives lost to overdoses and lives saved by Narcan.

The



statistics displayed will be the combined totals of the Maryland State Police Leonardtown Barrack and St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office. The signs will be updated the beginning of each month and will reflect year-to-date running totals.

The signs were sponsored by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), Maryland Heroin Awareness Advocates (MHAA),

Maryland Health Department - St. Mary's County, and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The signs were made and installed by Wayne's Sign & Engraving, Inc.

Two focuses of the Maryland State Police are a reduction of alcohol-related crashes and combatting the opioid epidemic. Year-round enforcement efforts are aimed at motorists who violate the law and jeopardize the safety of our citizens.

Additionally, Gov. Larry Hogan has declared a state of emergency in response to the opioid crisis. Troopers on patrol at all 23 State Police barracks are equipped and trained to administer Narcan, which can rapidly save a person's life during an opioid overdose.





# IMPACT UPDATE



Maryland State Police Commercial Vehicle Safety Inspector Supervisor Steven Kirkwood (center) took first place in the Level V Passenger Carrier Vehicle Inspection Award category.

## MSP CVED Inspector Captures First-Place Award In North American Inspectors Championship

The Maryland State Police would like to recognize Commercial Vehicle Safety Inspector Supervisor Steven Kirkwood of the Parkton Weight and Inspections facility.

On Aug. 17, 2019 Kirkwood was one of many to attend the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance North American Inspectors Championship and one of few to be a recipient of an award. Kirkwood was one of three awarded the Level V Passenger Carrier Vehicle Inspection Award. In this category, Kirkwood placed first.

The North American Standard Level V Passenger Carrier Vehicle Inspection is an inspection of motor coaches and other passenger-carrying vehicles. Passenger vehicle certified inspectors are specially trained commercial motor vehicle enforcement personnel equipped to inspect the unique aspects of a motor coach and driver, while also taking responsibility for the safety of passengers.

Every year since NAIC started 27 years ago, each jurisdiction from Canada, Mexico and the United

States is eligible to send one inspector to represent their jurisdiction, receive valuable training and compete against other top inspectors for the ultimate title of NAIC Grand Champion. This year, 51 commercial motor vehicle inspectors gathered in Pittsburgh, Aug. 13-17, 2019, to compete at NAIC, the only event dedicated to testing, recognizing and awarding commercial motor vehicle inspector excellence.

Each contestant competed in six inspection categories. Contestants were tested on real world vehicle and driver inspection scenarios and must have appropriately evaluated the situation and properly identified violations within the recreated roadside inspection scenario. Inspectors were tested on the out-of-service criteria, inspection procedures, hazardous materials/dangerous goods requirements, passenger carrier vehicles (motor coaches) and more.

Great job, Inspector Steven Kirkwood! Keep up the outstanding work!

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